

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 12 (currently amended): A method of supporting a net along a support member comprising the steps of:

providing a support member having a generally elongated extent and having a given diameter;

providing a plurality of lock fasteners which have a free end which connects to an opposite end to create a variably constraining diameter when pulled tight;

providing a net having a border that surrounds the perimeter of the net with warp and weft members extending generally perpendicularly thereto to define spaces therebetween;

stretching said border along said support member and fastening said border member to said support member using said lock fasteners by wrapping said fastener about said net border and said support member in said spacing and pulling the free end of said fastener through a locking mechanism to lock the fastener in place.

Claim 13 (original): A method as defined in claim 12 further characterized by providing a net having a border which has a generally rectangular shape defined by first and second spaced apart long sides extending parallel to one another and first and second short sides each connected to and extending generally perpendicular to the first and second long sides and extending parallel to one another and locating the long sides of said border flat against said support member and securing said border to said support member with said lock fasteners.

Claim 14 (original): A method as defined in claim 13 further characterized by providing a rubberized sleeve about said lock fasteners and clamping said border about said support element in the region of said rubberized sleeve.

Claim 15 (original): A method as defined in claim 14 further characterized by locking said net to said support member using a one way latch mechanism provided as part of said lock fastener.

Claim 16 (currently amended): ~~A system~~ An apparatus for [[of]] supporting a net along a support member comprising:

a support member having a generally elongated extent and having a given diameter;
a plurality of lock fasteners which have a free end which connects to an opposite end to create a variably constraining diameter when pulled tight;
a net having a border that surrounds the perimeter of the net with warp and weft members extending generally perpendicularly thereto to define spaces therebetween;
said border being stretched along said support member and fastened to said support member using said lock fasteners by wrapping said fasteners about said net border and said support member in said spaces and pulling the free end of said fastener through a locking mechanism to lock the fastener in place with the border and the support member.

Claim 17 (currently amended): ~~A system~~ An apparatus as defined in claim 16 further characterized by said net having a border which has a generally rectangular shape defined by first and second spaced apart long sides extending parallel to one another and first and second short sides each connected to and extending generally perpendicular to the first and second long sides and extending parallel to one another and locating the long sides of said border flat against said support member and securing said border to said support member with said lock fasteners.

Claim 18 (currently amended): ~~A system~~ An apparatus as defined in claim 17 further characterized by a rubberized sleeve being disposed about said lock fasteners and said border being clamped about said support element in the region of said rubberized sleeve.

Claim 19 (currently amended): ~~A system~~ An apparatus as defined in claim 18 further characterized by locking said net to said support member using a one way latch mechanism provided as part of said lock fastener.